

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. -- 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
receiving, by an interface manager in a storage system, device information from a plurality of interface controllers operatively associated with storage system devices in the storage system, the device information relating to the storage system devices;
generating, by the interface manager, a logical map identifying at least some of the storage system devices based on the device information; [[and]]
assigning, by the interface manager, the logical map to at least one host separate from the interface manager to enable access by the at least one host of the storage system devices;
monitoring for a change in a state of the storage system devices; and
in response to the change, modifying the logical map.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising aggregating configuration information from each of the storage system devices for the logical map.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising propagating management commands to each of the plurality of interface controllers.

15. (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising routing transactions from the at least one host to at least one of the interface controllers.

16. (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising formatting transactions from the at least one host for a designated interface controller.

17. (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising scheduling access by the at least one host to the storage system devices.

18. (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising identifying the storage system devices in the logical map as logical units (LUNs).

19. – 20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A storage network comprising:
an automated storage system including data access drives and transfer robotics, wherein the data access drives are to access data on data storage media, and wherein the transfer robotics are to transfer data storage media in the automated storage system;

a plurality of interface controllers operatively associated with the data access drives and transfer robotics;

an interface manager separate from the data access drives, the transfer robotics, and the interface controllers, the interface manager communicatively coupled to each of the plurality of interface controllers, the interface manager to generate a logical map of the automated storage system based on aggregating configuration information for the data access drives and transfer robotics, wherein the logical map is used by hosts to allow access of the data access drives and the transfer robotics by the hosts; and

a pipeline provided as computer readable program code in computer-readable storage at the interface manager, the pipeline including:

a command router to format transactions for the interface controllers;

a management application program interface (API) to generate management commands for the plurality of interface controllers; and

a device manager to communicate with the plurality of interface controllers.

22. (Original) The storage network of claim 21 wherein the management API generates at least the following management commands: reboot, interrogate, and status.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Original) The storage network of claim 21 wherein the management API schedules access to the data access drives and transfer robotics.

25. (Currently Amended) An interface manager for use in a storage system, comprising:
at least a first port to communicate with controllers operatively associated with storage system devices of the storage system;
at least one network port to communicate with a host separate from the interface manager and external to the storage system; and
at least one control element to:
receive device information relating to the storage system devices from the controllers, wherein the received device information includes at least one of numbers and types of the storage system devices operatively associated with the controllers, and capacities of the storage system devices,
generate at least one logical map based on the received device information, and
assign the at least one logical map to the host to allow the host to access one or more of the storage system devices.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously Presented) The interface manager of claim 25, wherein the at least one control element includes a pipeline to route management commands to the controllers.

28. (Previously Presented) The interface manager of claim 25, wherein the at least one control element includes a command router to format transactions for the controllers.

29. (Previously Presented) The interface manager of claim 25, wherein the at least one control element includes a management application program interface (API) to generate management commands for the controllers.

1 30. (Previously Presented) The interface manager of claim 29, wherein the management API
2 schedules access to data access drives and transfer robotics.

1 31. (Currently Amended) The interface manager of claim 25, wherein the storage system
2 devices include data access drives and transfer robotics, wherein the data access drives are to
3 access data on data storage media, and wherein the transfer robotics are to transfer data storage
4 media in the storage system, and wherein the data access drives and transfer robotics are
5 identified by a fibre channel port and logical units (LUNs) in the logical map.

1 32. (Previously Presented) The interface manager of claim 25, further comprising a user
2 interface to allow access of the at least one logical map to enable administrator modification of
3 the at least one logical map.

1 33. (Previously Presented) The interface manager of claim 25, wherein the at least one
2 control element is configured to further:
3 monitor for a change in a state of the storage system devices; and
4 in response to the change, modify the at least one logical map.

1 34. (Cancelled)

1 35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the logical map identifies
2 storage system devices that are accessible by the at least one host.

1 36. (Previously Presented) The interface manager of claim 25, wherein the logical map
2 identifies plural storage system devices that are accessible by the host.

1 37. (Currently Amended) The storage network of claim 21, wherein the logical map
2 identifies data access drives in the automated storage system accessible by a host the hosts.

38. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the state of the storage system devices includes one or more of: a storage system device being taken offline, or a storage system device being re-cabled.

39. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the received device information includes at least one of numbers and types of the storage system devices operatively associated with the interface controllers, and capacities of the storage system devices.

40. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the received device information further includes connection types of the storage system devices, and permissions associated with the storage system devices.

41. (New) The interface manager of claim 25, wherein the received device information further includes connection types of the storage system devices, and permissions associated with the storage system devices.

42. (New) The interface manager of claim 33, wherein the state of the storage system devices includes one or more of: a storage system device being taken offline, or a storage system device being re-cabled.